

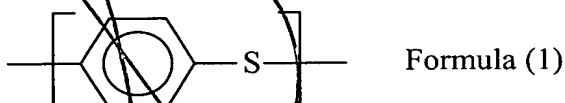
B1
B2
70200
atmosphere at 330°C.

Please add the following new Claims.

7/9. (New) The resin composition according to Claim 1, wherein the melt index of the polyphenylene sulfide is from 1 to 300 as measured under measuring conditions of 330°C, a load of 5 kg, an orifice diameter of 2.095 mm and a length of 8 mm.

8/10. (New) The resin composition according to Claim 1, further comprising a lubricant, a stabilizer, a pigment or a mixture thereof.

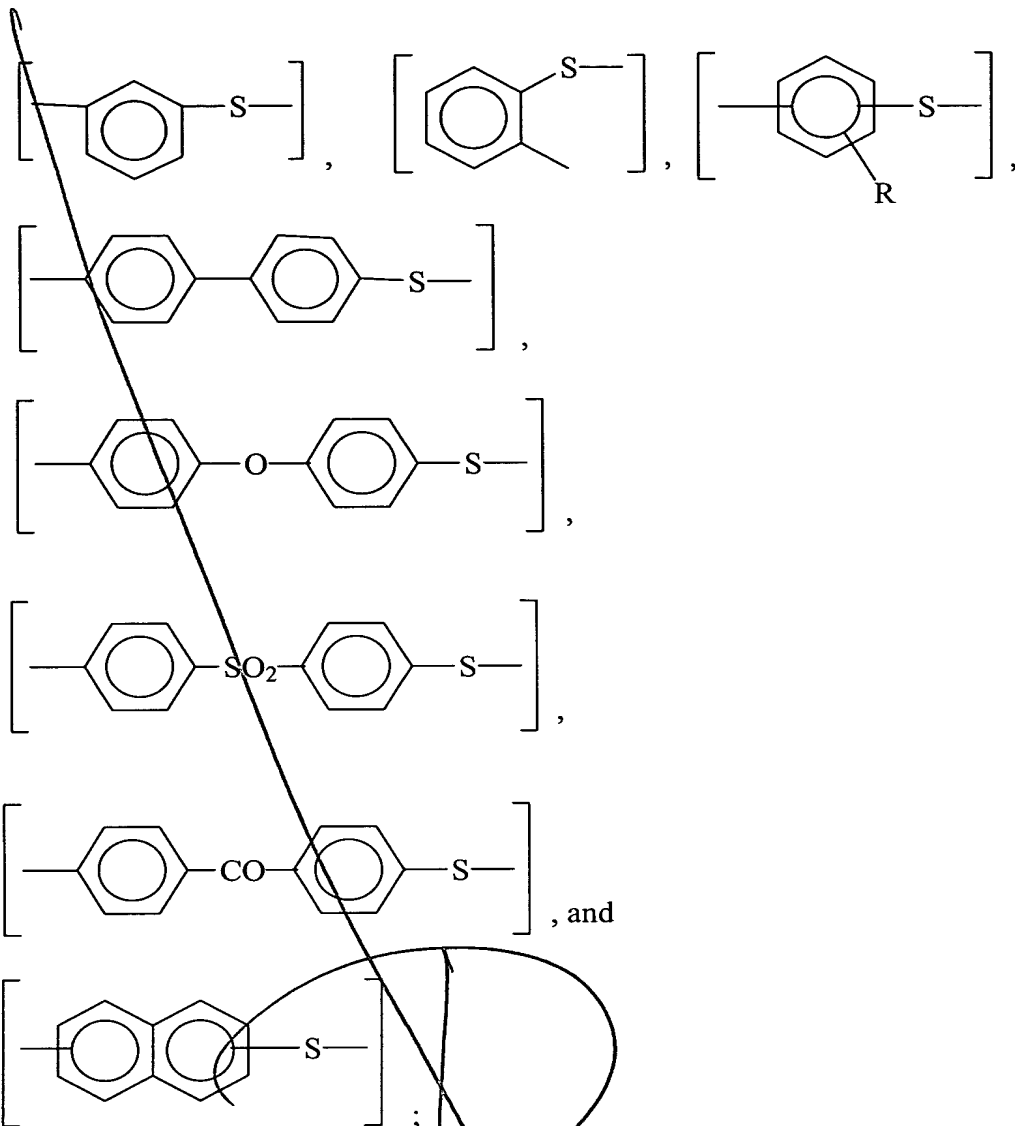
9/11. (New) The resin composition according to Claim 1, wherein said polyphenylene sulfide is a polymer comprising a repeating unit represented by formula (1):



10/12. (New) The resin composition according to Claim 11, wherein said polyphenylene sulfide is a random copolymer or a blockcopolymer containing at least 70 mol% of the repeating unit of formula (1).

11/13. (New) The resin composition according to Claim 11, wherein said polyphenylene sulfide contains at least 90 mol% of the repeating unit of formula (1).

12/14. (New) The resin composition according to Claim 11, wherein said polyphenylene sulfide further comprises a copolymer unit selected from the group consisting of



wherein R represents an alkyl group, a nitro group, a phenyl group, an alkoxy group, a carboxyl group or a metal carboxylate group.

3/15. (New) The resin composition according to Claim 14, wherein said copolymer unit is present in an amount of less than 30 mol%.

2/16. (New) The resin composition according to Claim 14, wherein said copolymer unit is present in an amount of less than 10 mol%.

BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENT

Claims 3 and 5 have been canceled.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features of Claim 3 and Claim 5. The amendment of Claim 1 is further supported at page 8, lines 15 to 16 of the specification.

New Claims 9-16 have been added.

New Claim 9 is supported at page 6, lines 15-20.

New Claim 10 is supported at page 11, lines 6 and 7.

New Claims 11-16 are supported at page 4, line 22 to page 6, line 1.

No new matter is believed to have been added by entry of this amendment. Entry and favorable reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this amendment Claims 1, 2, 4 and 6-16 will now be active in this application.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Acquah for his helpful and courteous discussion with Applicants' Representative on October 24, 2001.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application, as amended, in view of the following remarks.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a resin composition, whereby the dimensional accuracy of a three-dimensional molded product obtainable by an injection molding method is remarkably improved. This can be achieved by adding a small amount of a fluorinated resin to PPS. Specifically, in the present invention (b) a fluorinated resin such

as a tetrafluoroethylene/perfluoro(alkylvinyl ether) copolymer (PFA copolymer) or a tetrafluoroethylene/hexafluoropropylene copolymer (HFP copolymer) is added to (a) a polyphenylene sulfide (PPS) in a specific weight ratio (a)/(b) of from 70/30 to 95/5 (see page 8, lines 15 to 20 of the specification). A composition of PPS/PFA or PPS/HFP is illustrated in Examples 1, 2, 8 and 9 the dimensional accuracy is remarkably improved.

Accordingly, the present invention as set forth in amended Claim 1 relates to a resin composition which comprises the following (a) and the following (b) in a ratio of from 70 to 95 wt% of (a) and from 0.5 to 50 wt% of (b) in the total amount of (a) and (b):

(a) a polyphenylene sulfide; and

(b) a tetrafluoroethylene/perfluoro(alkylvinyl ether) copolymer or a tetrafluoroethylene/hexafluoropropylene copolymer having a solidification temperature (T_{mc}) of at least 237°C when cooled at a cooling rate of 10°C/min after melting in a nitrogen atmosphere at 330°C.

In contrast to the present invention, it is an objective of Kato et al to improve the non-sticking sliding property of polyphenylene sulfide (PPS).

Kato et al discloses a non-sticking sliding part molding composition comprising a mixture of a fluororesin and a thermoplastic resin other than a fluororesin and a fibrous filler (Kato et al, abstract, col. 2, lines 9-18).

However, only PTFE is illustrated as a fluorinated resin in the Examples of the cited reference. There is no Example illustrating PFA or HFP which are used in the claimed invention. Further, there is no disclosure or suggestion in the reference regarding the improvement of the dimensional accuracy.

Moreover, a composition of PPS and PTFE as illustrated in the cited reference is used in the Comparative Examples (see Examples 3 and 10) of the present invention. As evident

from the Comparative Examples, the dimensional accuracy is worse when combining PPS and PTFE compared to a composition containing PPS alone. For example, in the compositions that combine PPS and PTFE (Examples 3 and 10), the A/B size difference is 42 and 82 compared to an A/B size difference of only 21 in Example 7 which only uses PPS.

However, in Examples 1, 2, 8 and 9 according to the present invention, an extremely small A/B size difference of only 4, 6, 8 and 10, respectively, is achieved. Thus, the dimensional accuracy when combining PPS and PTFE is much worse compared to the composition of the present invention.

Furthermore, in the cited reference, the weight ratio of PPS/fluorinated resin ranges from 60/100 to 100/100 (Kato et al, Claim 1), which is different from the weight ratio range of PPS/fluorinated resin (95/5 to 70/30) of the present invention.

Therefore, the rejection of Claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Kato et al is believed to be unsustainable as the present invention is neither anticipated nor obvious and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.